

✓
**THE
LITERARY
PAMPHLETEER,**

CONTAINING:

Some observations on the best mode of promoting the cause

OF LITERATURE IN THE STATE OF KENTUCKY;

AND

A REVIEW OF THE LATE ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

Transylvania University.

NO. I.

Humbly addressed to the Citizens,

AND

LEGISLATURE OF KENTUCKY,

BY THE EDITOR.

PARIS, Ky.

PUBLISHED BY LYLE & KEENON.

1823.

Price 6½ Cents Specie, or 12½ Commonwealth,

THE
LITERARY PAMPHLETEER, &c.

*Friends and Fellow-Citizens, and
Gentlemen of the Legislature,*

GENERAL knowledge, sound literature, and good morals, are essential to every free government. This is one of the few truths which have been considered incontrovertible. Our own happy government originated in knowledge and virtue; and the promotion of learning has been a prime object with the Congress of the United States, and with the Legislature of each state. At the same time our free Constitution, was predicated upon the lamentable fact that there is a corrupt principle in man, influencing him to usurpation, injustice and oppression. This the framers of our Federal Constitution had learned from the Bible, and the History of our race. They supposed that corruption would spring up and prevail in the American soil, as it had done in the European, unless watched, checked and prevented by suitable laws. This principle pervades the Constitution of this state and many of the laws of former Legislatures. They have been extremely cautious in granting unlimited charters to monied institutions, and Seminaries of Learning. They knew that "money is power," and that "knowledge is power;" and that both may be abused. Their precaution was wise and merits the thanks of their constituents, although in some cases their checks and limitations were not the most judicious which might be devised. If therefore a citizen should suggest, and attempt to prove that corruption has actually appeared operating in a certain Literary Institution within the state of Kentucky, and if he should urge the propriety of a reform, with respect to the abuse of power both in money and knowledge in that institution, he is not to be prejudged as a slanderer, or the officious publisher of what is improbable, and never anticipated by the framers of our Constitutions and laws. It is a prevalent opinion now that a reform, in many respects, is greatly needed in our country.

Again, education in this state has not progressed to such an extent, and perfection as was deemed desirable by the Legislature of 1821, who appointed commissioners to report on this subject. Their report has been received and laid before the people, and is worthy the attention of every patriotic citizen. It cannot, therefore, be considered as intruding upon public attention, to submit a few thoughts on this very important subject. Many can find fault and pull down, who will give no aid in reforming, or building up. With such I wish not to be associated. In the present humble attempt, my design is not to injure the Transylvania University, or the good people of Lexington, who have

exerted themselves for its support, and the honor of their town. Their public spirit merits the warmest applause. If it should appear however, that a reform in their University is necessary, and if that reform can be effected, their permanent interests, and the interests of learning in our country will be promoted. I am fully aware of the odium and obloquy to which I expose myself in agitating this subject. It is no agreeable task. The advice of friends and various considerations have induced me to undertake it. I know my character, my motives, and manner will all be arraigned, scrutinized, and blackened, if possible, by those who may feel implicated. Their alarm and exertions to prevent investigation, and the scurrility, and misrepresentation, to which they have resorted, is strong presumptive evidence against them, and afford data for correct anticipations of what may come. They have shackled, or enlisted all the presses which could give extensive publicity to the information, which the people ought to have, with respect to the management of the Transylvania University. In fact we can no longer boast of a free press in Lexington. Could such an one have been found, this very humble paper would never have appeared. The only Editor who manifested a disposition to favor free discussion, was constrained to close his press, while he and others were employed in as dirty work as billingsgate ever furnished to any poor set of Printers. This fact of itself, ought to alarm those who are alive to the best interests of their country. If our Literary Institutions can be screened from examination—if those who preside over them, can manage money and knowledge for the corruption of the rising age, and at the same time can trammel the press, and thus avoid detection and exposure, where is our liberty, and what are our prospects?

Some may throw the door in my face, and deny me a hearing, from the mere circumstance that I am a Preacher, and a Presbyterian. They may with a high and haughty tone, ask what business I have with the Transylvania University. I would answer, that our free Constitution proscribes no sect; and I do not know that it is yet a prevalent and well founded opinion that a Minister of the Gospel, is *ex officio* disqualified for attesting matters of fact, and has no concern in the Literature and morals of his country. It can be very satisfactorily shown that the United States, and this state are as much indebted for their Literature to the Clergy, as to to any other class of men. And the Presbyterians will be found inferior to no other denomination of Christians in the liberal and active promotion of learning. I know it is asserted that they wish to monopolize it; and pursue a course of education, by which they can proselyte the youth of other denominations. But I also know that the charge is unfounded, and cannot be proved. The history of Princeton College, which has always been under their controul refutes the ungenerous allegation. And in this state, they have ever manifested a disposition to co-operate with their fellow-citizens in general, in the cause of education. If very recently they have pursued a different course, they have been driven to it by circumstances which will justify

them before an impartial public.* They must indeed be very ignorant and presumptuous, to indulge the idea of getting any exclusive controul of the T. U. They are well aware that it is now the Institution of the people of Kentucky, and that it must be conducted on principles agreeable to the various denominations. When, however, they have lost all confidence in those who preside over it—when they see corruption in almost every form prevailing in it—when they see multitudes of youths to whom the destinies of the country will soon be committed, receiving there the most deleterious principles, and forming habits of extravagance, profanity and dissipation, they cannot, without abandoning the best interests of society, be silent spectators. I therefore as an individual citizen, and all the Presbyterians as citizens, have as much business with the Transylvania University as any other citizen or citizens in the state. He who questions this, cannot be a friend to our constitution of equal rights and privileges. If a fair hearing and free discussion cannot be had; if abuse and ungenerous arraignments of motives be suffered to shield the accused from a fair trial, I shall have performed my duty as a member of the community in this humble attempt; and shall quietly wait until He who can make the wrath of man to praise him; and the working of corruption to discharge of itself and relieve the body, shall effect a reform.

My simple object, whatever detraction may say, in addressing you, my Fellow-Citizens, and Gentlemen of the Legislature, is to promote the cause of sound, practical literature in this state. This, according to my views, and the views of many, must be done by correcting the abuses and changing the course, which has been generally pursued in all the Schools, from the lowest to the highest, and particularly in the Transylvania University, which from its situation and influence is calculated to give the tone to the politics, the morals and religion of the state. I shall now briefly give you my views in general, leaving details for a future occasion.

I need barely mention that I highly approve of the report in general, made by the commissioners, appointed 1821, with respect to Common Schools. A report equally learned and judicious is much needed with respect to the higher Seminaries of learning. They have not as yet answered the desirable ends, and the pleasing anticipations of those who have endowed and patronized them. The public funds have, in many instances, been misapplied, and prodigally wasted; and at this hour we have not a single school, of the higher class, in the west, which does not need, either improvement or reform, to render it generally unexceptionable, and extensively a blessing to society.

What kind of Seminaries are best calculated to give a solid, practical education; and are most safe, and congenial to a republican form of government, is an important question, and one which I have not yet seen satisfactorily discussed. The history of our race shows that the

* See No. II.—Note I.

difficulty of governing increases as larger numbers of men or youth are brought together in close contact. In all large establishments, the machinery is so complex and extensive; so many hands are engaged: the oversight, and responsibility are so divided; the wants are so numerous, and the opportunities for negligence, and the indulgence of depraved principles so great, that military law alone is adequate for the government. Thus large armies, cities and literary institutions must be governed by much more rigid laws, and at a much greater expense and trouble than the same number of men scattered in a civil and agricultural community. This simple fact, leads us to question the policy, and even the practicability of managing very large literary institutions in our republic. A system of laws sufficiently rigid, and an administration suitably energetic cannot be carried into effect.

Again, there can be no objection to a University if properly limited and governed. Yet if such an institution really comports with the name and we are to understand by it one of those royal, splendid establishments, which accompany, and appear to be the necessary support of monarchy and religious establishments in Europe, it must be considered incompatible with our republican form of government. A University is an institution of learning where *all* the arts and higher branches of science are taught, and where *all* the learned professions of Law, Physic, Divinity, &c. are studied. Now, as we have no religious establishment, and as we are happily guarded against it by our Constitution, and as a variety of denominations exist among us holding different systems of Divinity, it is very evident that we can have no University strictly and properly so called. We may, however, have a limited, or imperfect one for carrying the common arts and sciences to the greatest possible perfection, and for the accommodation of those who have time and means to pursue literature to all its heights, and depths, lengths and breadths. But the funds and population of the United States, would at this time be requisite for the establishment, endowment and support of such an University. Common Schools, Academies and Colleges, must also be in full and vigorous operation, annually issuing forth large numbers of youth in the higher ranks of life. Were such the circumstances in the United States, or in any one state, still the utility and sound policy of such a University might be questioned. Every thing about it would necessarily be splendid, expensive and lordly. It would produce a set of men, whose views, feelings, and habits, would be very inconsistent with our plain republican equality, but highly gratified with the distinguishing titles, and all the pageantry of a proud aristocracy.

These sentiments may be considered by some as brought forward to answer a certain purpose, and may therefore be rejected as unworthy the least attention. But I wish the serious reader and lover of his country to ponder them; and enquire if those who may spurn, and attempt to ridicule them, are not interested in an establishment, and of an order of men very similar to the portrait above.

If any now enquire what ought to be done with the Transylvania University, I would answer, that it ought to be continued and conducted, as the institution of the people of Kentucky. I would not strip it of the departments of Medicine and Law, or of any of its rights & privileges. And as a professorship of Theology cannot consistently be established, let a majority regulate the subjects of religion and morals, according to the general principles upon which they can agree. A course of lectures on *Moral Philosophy*, or *Natural Law*, necessarily includes the general principles of Theology and always will be formed according to some preconceived theory.* Nothing can be more absurd, & impracticable than the idea of separating all religious instruction from a *liberal* course of education. A literary institution that would exclude the Being and attributes of God, the relation in which the human family stand to him, and the duties growing out of these relations, would give but a very *illiberal* and *contracted* education. Now in this state, there are Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians Presbyterians, Roman Catholics, Unitarians, Deists, and some professing nothing. The first four, though differing in their particular and distinguishing creeds, agree in the essentials of christianity, and might harmonize in the principles of morals and religion as far as absolutely necessary to be taught in a literary institution. Now if these four denominations should form a majority in the state, and should agree to support and manage the Transylvania University, according to our Federal and state Constitutions, they would have the right to do so. The Catholics, if I am rightly informed, support and manage an institution of their own. If either the Unitarians, the Deists, or those who profess nothing form a majority, and will support and manage the Transylvania University, they have the right to do so; or if they can unite on common principles, and thus form a majority the right of controul will be in them. But to set up any one of these, whether Presbyterian, Unitarian, or Deist to rule the institution, or teach Natural Law and Morality, which necessarily include Theology, according to Sectarian, preconceived theory, is outraging the principles of the social compact, and ought not to be borne by the people. That this has been done will be shown hereafter.

If upon enquiry it be found, as I presume it will, that the four first mentioned denominations, constitute a majority in this state, let a majority both of the board of Trustees and of the Faculty in the Transylvania University be chosen equally from them, and the others from

* One of the writers in Lexington, who endeavors to defend the present administration of the Transylvania University, is for excluding all religion from a Literary Institution, leaving it entirely between the student and *his Pastor*. This brings to my recollection the following anecdote.—A certain rustic asked a quack how the separation was made and kept up between what we eat, & what we drink. He answered, that there was a little clapper at the mouth of the throat, which working very freely, separated and turned them down different ways. The rustic replied, well, I think it must work very fast, when we eat Mush and Milk.

other denominations, or classes; and let the Board and Faculty thus formed regulate the course of Moral Philosophy and Natural Law, and determine how far the principles of Christianity shall be introduced and inculcated. On this plan the zeal and co-operation of these denominations would be secured in favor of the University as far as it appeared an object, and all the peculiarities of sect would be precluded. Each one of the Faculty being of a different denomination or attached to none, would act as a check upon the others. And whatever objections there may be to this plan, I am, fully persuaded no other will secure a general and harmonious patronage, of that institution.

With respect to subordinate Academies and Colleges, after endowing them so far as is necessary for erecting buildings, and procuring some books and apparatus, I would surrender them to any and all the denominations or societies who would undertake their management and support. The Methodists have already instituted a College in the state, and I would recommend that each of the other denominations institute one either in the vicinity of the University, or in such place as would be most suitable and convenient for the mass of their several members. In these Colleges, the managers and supporters might be left free to inculcate what religious sentiments they pleased, and to adopt such laws and regulations as they might consider proper, provided they did not contravene the Constitution of the United States, and of this state. Resting entirely upon themselves and the merits of the education given, they would, from interest, pursue as liberal, and as unexceptionable a course as possible. The advantages of this plan would be,

1. The excitement of a literary spirit in all the denominations. No one would wish to be behind another; and each would be emulous to have the best college, and academies; and to produce the best scholars. The result would be that hundreds would be educated, in a short time; for ten that are now; and all the professions and denominations would abound with learned, sober, practical men, without any aid from the Legislature.

2. From these Academies and Colleges numbers would be furnished annually, who might wish to pass to the University to enjoy the advantages which it might afford.

3. A necessary result of this plan would be a happy equilibrium of power and influence among the various sects. We all dread a religious establishment and are jealous of any denomination that has a literary and religious ascendancy. If any other security besides the Federal and State constitutions against all this, be needed, let the plan suggested be taken into consideration, and adopted by the various denominations, and be recommended and favored by the Legislature.

One thing I would humbly suggest is necessary to give the plan success, *viz.* That the Legislature limit these Academies and Colleges in their operations, differently from the mode which has generally been adopted by the former Legislatures. If these Colleges be bound not to violate the constitution of the United States, and of this state, the only power which they can use, or abuse for the injury of the state, is the

power of money. Instead therefore, of the Legislature retaining in the charters the right of controuling and managing both the institutions and funds, I would suggest that it would be all-sufficient to limit their funds within a certain amount; say, one hundred thousand dollars for each College, or what would produce an income sufficient for three professors. When a people furnish their own funds, they ought to have the sole management, and controul of them, and unless they have this privilege secured, they will not, to any large amount throw them into any institution. The most successful plans for promoting education in our country have been those which excited and encouraged the people to take the support and management of Schools into their own hands. Large public funds are never economized; and Legislative support gives but a forced, hot-bed growth, and brings not the spirit, resources and energies of the people into habitual exercise in the cause of Literary Institutions. But when these institutions belong to particular towns, sections of country, societies, or denominations—when they are supported by private funds, under the exclusive controul of the contributors—when interest, honor, and the welfare of children, all conspire with the love of country to raise them to respectability and eminent usefulness, we may calculate to see them flourish, and spread abroad the inestimable blessings of knowledge.

These general remarks I have thought proper to submit in the introduction, hoping that they may obviate unfavorable prejudices, and that they may lead to sober, rational investigation of the subjects they involve. I wish them fairly tested, and shall feel grateful if any of my Fellow-Citizens, discovering any thing in them erroneous, illiberal, and worthy of correction will in a gentlemanly manner point it out, and suggest something better.

The following article contains a statement of facts, which has been published, and which will be supported by good vouchers. It ought in the opinion of many to influence the Legislature to institute a formal examination into the late administration of the Transylvania University. The article was written by a very respectable citizen of Fayette county, conversant with that Institution, and his vouchers for that part which respects the funds, will be principally the records, and documents of the University. If other testimony be required, I shall hold myself responsible to produce it before any competent court, due notice being given.

Some remarks will be appended to the article.

With the most respectful deference, I subscribe myself the humble servant of the Citizens, and Honorable Members of the Legislature of Kentucky.

JOHN M'FARLAND.

PARIS, DECEMBER, 1823.

CITIZENS OF KENTUCKY,

It is a principle congenial with our free institutions, and guaranteed to every citizen to investigate freely the characters of public men and public measures. So long as there is vigilance sufficient in the citizens, prudently to exercise this right through the medium of a free press, there is not much danger of our liberties. But it is too frequently the case that our attention is fixed upon public men and public measures, as it respects the general policy of the nation or commonwealth; while we overlook those more private institutions with which our interest and prosperity are more intimately identified, I mean public institutions of learning. That the prosperity of a state or commonwealth, is intimately identified with its public institutions of learning is obvious upon a moment's reflection. Here are collected the youth and talents of the state, upon whom rests exclusively, the hope of its future prosperity; for they are in a short time to direct its destinies. If the youth of our country at our public institutions of learning imbibe correct principles of morality and correct habits, if they are taught the science of practical life, they will soon diffuse these principles and habits through the whole mass of society, and thus prove a blessing. But upon the other hand, if they imbibe immoral principles, and acquire licentious habits they will diffuse these through society and prove a curse. Thus it is that those who preside over, and direct public institutions of learning hold in their plastic hand the future destinies of our commonwealth. It is an old adage applied to the education of youth, "just as the twig is bent, the tree is inclined." If this is a fact, which might easily be more fully illustrated and proved, then what a sacred trust do you repose in the hands of the directors of your public institutions of learning, and with what a scrutinizing eye ought you to watch over them to see how they discharge their high and responsible duty! whether they use correctly, or abuse the funds you put into their hands, as a public stock? or whether they do, or do not employ such teachers, in whom you can have confidence, in a matter which involves your dearest interests.

I make this apology, fellow-citizens, while I proceed to exercise that right guaranteed to me, to investigate the character of the Transylvania University, your public institution of learning.

A brief history of the institution by noticing some of the most notable events that have marked its progress, from its first establishment until its original charter was dissolved, and the institution reorganised by the *memorable Legislature* of the year 1817—18; may not be unacceptable to my fellow-citizens.

Transylvania Seminary as it was first called, was chartered and endowed by the Legislature of Virginia in the year 1780; its funds consisted of 8,000 acres of escheated lands and one-sixth of the Surveyor's fees. These funds being unproductive in its first organization, and for many years afterwards were only sufficient to give a scanty salary to one professor. In consequence of which, it was necessarily limited

in its operations, being nothing more than a common Grammar School. On the 30th of June, 1794, the Reverend H. TOULMIN was chosen to preside over it. In him the religious public could have no confidence. In consequence of which the Presbyterians originated an institution under their own particular patronage, which obtained a charter under the name of the Kentucky Academy, from the Legislature of Kentucky, in December, 1794.

This institution possessing more active funds, and more extensive patronage, in a very short time reduced the Transylvania Seminary to a state of almost total abandonment. Such was the sterling virtue of those days, that watched with a jealous eye their public institution of learning, and with an indignant frown, said to those officers who governed it; if you appoint men who despise our religion and religious institutions, rather than endanger the morals of our children, we will abandon you.

Some of the wise politicians of the day seeing this state of things, and no doubt, through the best of motives, projected the plan of uniting the two institutions, the Transylvania Seminary and the Kentucky Academy.

As we have now arrived at an important period in the history of the Transylvania University; you will permit me, fellow-citizens, distinctly to state to you the manner by which, and the *principles* on which the two institutions were united. I do it, that you may have before you facts, from which to judge whether the charter making, and charter breaking Legislature of 1817—18, acted correctly or incorrectly, justly or unjustly, in dissolving the charter: and whether the trustees then in office acted correctly in submitting peaceably to that act.

A committee was appointed by each board (of the Transylvania Seminary and Kentucky Academy,) to deliberate on the propriety of uniting the two institutions, and to agree upon the principles of union. Those committees met & agreed to unite on certain principles, and the Legislature was petitioned to unite the two institutions, and grant them a charter upon the terms agreed upon, which they did in the fall session of the year, 1798—and the institution thus formed was called the Transylvania University. One of the terms of union embraced in the charter, was, "That the several acts of the General Assembly of the states of Virginia and Kentucky, then in force, prescribing the powers, and directing the proceedings of the Trustees of the Transylvania Seminary, shall be the laws of the Trustees of the said University, until amended and repealed by the Legislature, *on petitions of the Trustees of the said University, signed by at least eleven of them.*" The Legislature of 1817—18, materially altered this charter, in violation of the express contract, that they would not do so, but "on petition of the Trustees of the said University, signed by at least eleven of them." And thereby private funds to the amount of \$7,662 33 were taken from the controul of those men, to whom the donors had confided them!

The Trustees of the Transylvania University upon the union of the

Transylvania Seminary and Kentucky Academy, possessing more extensive funds and patronage, determined to enlarge the sphere of its operations, they accordingly, in the year 1804, appointed three professors, giving to each the salary of \$500 the whole amount of which is much less than is now given to a single professor. The Trustees wishing, when they did appoint a President, to call a man distinguished for his talents and Literature, and thinking the state of their funds not justifying the measure, had as yet left the Presidential chair vacant,

Under this arrangement the institution continued its operations, doing perhaps as much as could reasonably be expected until about the year 1806 or 7.

Previous to the union, the Trustees of the Transylvania Seminary had leased the most of the lands of the institution for a long term, at a very low rate. They of course were unproductive, and of little service to the University after the union. Leasing the lands was indeed an improper and injurious measure, and has been unjustly laid to the charge of the Trustees of the University after the union. But let it be remembered, that it was the act of the Trustees of the Transylvania Seminary before the formation of the Transylvania University, out of that Seminary and the Kentucky Academy. About the last mentioned period, the Trustees of the University saw the prospect of rendering these lands more productive by selling them and investing the money in Bank Stock, which they did to the amount of 66 shares in the Insurance Company, and 234 shares in the Bank of Kentucky. Being now possessed of the means, they determined still to enlarge their plan. They resolved to build the house which is now occupied, and also to call a President. They at different times elected and invited Doctors NOTT, ROMEYNE, and the Reverend LUTHER RICE, and LINDLEY, men distinguished for their literature, piety and correct moral habits; neither of whom could be induced to accept of their invitation. In the year 1817, through the influence of a few popular men, to the astonishment of a respectable minority in the Board, and a great dissatisfaction of perhaps a large majority of the citizens of Kentucky, the gentleman who now presides, was elected, who took the chair in 1818, in the house which had already been prepared, and to proceed on the enlarged plan of education, which the Trustees had already adopted.

On the 3d. of February, 1818, the Legislature, by an act of arbitrary power, as we suppose, dissolved the charter, which united the Kentucky Academy and Transylvania Seminary, and turned out of office the Trustees of the Transylvania University—the Trustees who had cherished the institution from the beginning—economized its funds, and made them respectable, were thus rewarded by the Legislature of their country. It is due to these men to state, and the public ought to know, the situation of the funds of the institution, when it thus passed out of their hands into the hands of others. I make the following statement because it will cast much light on the institution under its new arrangement, and shew how far it is worthy of your confidence.

The old Board of Trustees went out of office on the 1st. of March, 1818. They had at that time paid on account of the new building \$18,650, and owed no debts. They delivered over to the new board in notes bearing interest, and cash, \$14,958 36
 In stock in the Bank of Kentucky, 234 shares taken at par, 23,400 00

In the year 1821 the new Trustees came forward to the Legislature, and told them that the institution was in a state of bankruptcy, and about \$20,000 in debt, and petitioned the Legislature to pay it, where through the influence and strenuous exertions, and superior management of a few popular men, they passed a law appropriating a sum not to exceed \$20,000, for that purpose, without investigating how the money had been expended, which excited great murmuring and dissatisfaction in many sections of the community. Thus in the short space of three years and six months, they had expended in a way never yet accounted for, the funds of the institution, which had been economised by the old Trustees, to the amount of about fifty thousand dollars, including the dividends of the stock and the tuition money.

The Legislature when they appropriated the \$20,000 said, "that it should be the duty of the Trustees to manage the affairs and regulate the expenses of the institution, according to its funds and resources," and expressly interdicted them from incurring any debts under the hope or expectation of aid from government or which might endanger or impair the funds or property belonging to the institution. It would be reasonable to suppose that after this the Trustees would have retrenched all unnecessary expenses, and entered upon a plan of the most rigid economy. But instead of this what has been their course? They raised the price of tuition in the College to the unprecedented sum of sixty dollars per scholar, per annum. Thus by the high price for tuition and boarding, Transylvania University, which by some is boasted of as the pride of Kentucky, under its present arrangement, is inaccessible to nine-tenths of the citizens of Kentucky. It is only accessible to the citizens of Lexington and a few of the wealthy; yet the money of the people, poor, as well as rich, has been used to raise and support it.

But how has the admonition of the Legislature been attended to, and what is now the situation of the funds of the institution? They owe the United States Bank at this time, as we are informed, about \$8,230, in Specie. They have remaining of their Bank Stock, 116 shares, which when reduced to Specie, is worth about \$5,130. They have of the appropriation of the Legislature, when reduced to Specie, about \$3,500, making \$8,630—take from this sum the amount due the United States Bank, and there is a balance in favor of the University of \$400—And is this all that remains of the ample endowments made by the Legislatures of Virginia and Kentucky?

It is believed that the above sums are substantially correct, but should there be any mistake, it is in the power of the Trustees to give a full statement with official accuracy; and this, you, my fellow-citizens, have a right to demand.

And how has all this money been expended? The College edifice was nearly completed when the new Trustees came into office. We have been informed that no additional philosophical apparatus has been procured, and that a student may go through the whole course at Transylvania without witnessing a single experiment. Has the College Library been enlarged? It is believed that the principal additions made to it have been in Socinian pamphlets presented by the President. Are not some of the salaries too high? Should there not be a reduction? These are matters which the Legislature alone has the power to investigate, and it is hoped they will not let the next session pass without doing it. It is known that the interest of Lexington in a pecuniary point of view is intimately connected with Transylvania University: the students bring money there; hence the difficulty to get any thing in the Lexington newspapers, which may operate against it—and their readiness to puff it. The late editor of the Monitor, we are happy to learn, forms an honorable exception, and it is hoped others in the state will take up the cause of the people. Is there not a misapprehension as to the number of students in College? The catalogues are published in the winter, and include all the gentlemen who attend for a few months the Medical and Law Lectures—these, with the little boys in the Grammar School, make the number of three or four hundred—when in reality, the number in College has generally been about eighty or ninety.

I have hitherto confined your attention to the external concerns of the institution, which I consider of but comparatively small moment. I will now fix your attention on its internal concerns, which to me appear of infinitely greater moment than its pecuniary concerns.

By its internal concerns I include the Trustees who were appointed to superintend it; the professors who are its teachers; and the doctrines as it respects morality, which are taught. And who were the Trustees appointed by the Legislature on the present reorganized plan? Men of honorable characters, and justly high in the estimation of their fellow-citizens as it respects their political concerns; as men and citizens they stood unimpeached. But was not the Legislature particularly careful in the selection to choose men who professed religion in no form? who uniformly stood aloof from all the religious institutions of our country, and whose general character was that of hostility against christianity. Now did not this speak a language to the religious public louder than words could possibly have done? and what was *that* language? why plainly this, we are jealous of you: you will probably intermingle your religion with the concerns of the institution, which we intend to guard against. We intend that our public institution of learning shall henceforth stand upon infidel principles, entirely independent of religious patronage. Now, to the religious public I make my appeal, whether this is not the fact. Thus a few scepticks about Lexington had sufficient influence at Frankfort. virtually to *establish* infidelity by law, and to cast a Legislative slander upon the religion and the religious in-

stitutions of our state; and what was the cause of this hostility to the professors of religion? Those who are acquainted with the history of those times will never forget it, for it is indelibly fixed on their minds. It was an hour in which scepticism malignantly attempted to triumph over christianity. It was an hour, we fear, when the floodgates of error and immorality were opened to overflow our land, which all good men will regret when too late. It had been a principle which the old board had never lost sight of, to preserve in the board a proportion of professors of religion of different denominations, believing that the institution could not be supported independently of religious patronage. These men uniformly opposed the election of professors, or teachers whom they did not believe friendly to Christianity: and in the election of the present President of the University, which has produced so much excitement and indignation through the western country, and so much astonishment at the east, they manifested a persevering zeal which is honorable to them. This circumstance excited the hostility above alluded to.

Having obtained their object in the board, they raised the hue and cry at Frankfort of Sectarianism; and with a zeal and perseverance worthy of a better cause, obtained the unjust and dishonorable act of destroying the charter, turning out of office the old Trustees, and effecting a reorganization of the institution of which we have been speaking.— We say an unjust and dishonorable act, as there was a violation of a special contract, contrary to the most explicit stipulation; whereby the patrons of the Kentucky Academy were deprived of more than 7000 dollars, to be squandered in a manner, shameful, and injurious to the cause of real learning, morality and religion. For if we enquire, who are the professors, or teachers employed under the new order of things, in the Transylvania University, we will find, that with two or three exceptions, they are far from being what they ought to be. Some of them may possess learning and talents, but the principles and manner according to which they are applied, and the many foolish and ridiculous things taught, and dearly paid for, turn the scale against them; and merit severe reprehension.

But let me more particularly fix your attention on the president. Were he a private individual—did he walk in the humbler circles of life, I should not trouble you, nor myself, by saying one word concerning him or his principles. But when he is placed in the most important, and responsible situation, in which a mortal can be placed—when he is held up as an example, as it respects both principle and practice, to the youth of our country, upon whom depends its future prosperity, it would be a dereliction of the most criminal character to disregard him either as to his principles, or practice. Your eyes, I would say, fellow-citizens ought to be more distinctly fixed upon him than the Governor, or any officer of state, nay, than the President of the United States; for he can do infinitely more good or more harm. He has it more in his power as President of the Transylvania University to support your civil institutions, or sap their foundation than any officer of government.

And what are the principles which he maintains, and inculcates upon the students? Why principles which he disavowed when at first endeavoring to conciliate the confidence and good will of the people; and which were then, and are still considered by all denominations, except his own, as hostile to the christianity of the Bible. Does he not degrade the Saviour of the World to the level of a Socrates, a Plato and a Zoroaster? Ask those best acquainted with him—ask the sober and religious students who have sat under his lectures, if he is not in the habit of jesting on the sacred Scriptures, and turning into ridicule the distinguished doctrines of our Holy religion. They can tell you, that though a professed minister of the Gospel, his principles differ little from those of gross infidelity—they can tell how their feelings have been put to the torture by his profane anecdotes, by his ridicule and sneers at the truths and ordinances of christianity. And will you put up with all this? Will you pay the President of a University to laugh and brow-beat your sons out of the little religion which they may possess?

But what is the general character of Mr. Holley in a practical point of view, and as an example to youth. The Theatre, the Ball room, the Card table, and all those places to which the vain and dissipated resort, as places of amusement, are places to which he resorts, and is their warm advocate. Thus both by precept and example he is well qualified to lead youth in the way of the destroyer. And I ask if you can seriously think that the youth in general with such an example, will devote themselves diligently to study, and the acquisition of solid, useful learning? Is it not a matter worthy your serious enquiry to ascertain what is the actual state of morals, and what the real literary attainments for the two last sessions in the University? You have had puffing of the grossest kind; and I entreat you not to be imposed upon amidst the smoke thrown artfully around you. The happiness of your children and your country is at stake. If you, reader, are a father, spending twelve or fifteen hundred dollars on a favorite son in the pleasing hope that he is about to become a learned, moral and respectable member of society, be assured, that it is very possible, and a very probable thing, that he may return to you with an A. B. to his name, and a splendid scroll of parchment, whilst his principles are corrupted—his habits profligate, and his learning no better than your own, although he may look down upon you, and treat you with contempt, if you are so unhappy as not to have a College education. For I am bold to assert, in the face of every literary man, who is acquainted with the T. University, that there are no superior advantages enjoyed in it, which may not more safely, and at less expense be enjoyed in the private institutions of this state. It is known that a student may pass through the whole course of literature in the University, receive its honors, and not have seen one experiment, either on philosophy or astronomy, and for this plain reason, there is no apparatus for the purpose, or it is deficient and out of repair.

I have thus fellow-citizens, stated a few facts relative to the Transylvania University, for the purpose of fixing the attention of every religious man and every patriotic man upon it, and to excite the enquiry whether something ought not to be done with respect to it. Either to abandon it as a curse to the community, or so to regulate it as to set it on a more respectable footing. Do you ask how the matter is to be regulated. I answer just as you would regulate all other matters of general policy, through your Representatives. Let the friends of this institution controvert and disprove the statements I have made if they can. Let them exhibit, not a puff of the state of the University, but the books and documents for correcting any mistakes into which I may have fallen. And if they fail to do this; if they fail to prove my statements are wholly false and groundless, then instruct your Representatives to attend to the purification of your University, in the next Legislature.

A CITIZEN.

Some Notes and observations, on this disclosure of the 'CITIZEN' will appear in the next number. I would now remark with respect to the statement made concerning the funds of the Transylvania University that if a committee should be appointed by the Legislature to examine into the state of affairs in that institution they can ascertain the truth of that statement; and likewise of other statements which have come from various sources respecting the expenditures of the board.

A worthy correspondent, who has long been acquainted with the business and history of the T. University, has communicated to me the following facts.

1. The Refectory and all things belonging to the establishment, which was prepared at the advice of Dr. Holley and some of his friends, at an expense of not less than \$40.00, are now delivered up to him for his private use; being previously refitted by the Trustees, at a very great expense—the eating room being turned into the President's Ball Room.

2. The Trustees gave Dr. H. \$1000 dollars to bring out his family at first; and then when they and he had all returned to Boston, another large allowance was made to bring them out a second time. These and other allowances, or perquisites amount at least to \$6000 currency, per annum, or \$300 specie.

3. Between the President's salary and that of the other professors there is no reasonable proportion, they receiving only from \$ to \$1.00 per. annum; and having the burden both of teaching and governing. Their services severally are as laborious, as acceptable, and as punctually performed as those of the President, and they have no perquisites, or allowances, but their bare Commonwealth salaries.

4. It is notorious that President Holley is liberal and extravagant towards the Theatre, Ball room, Lotteries, yet &c. neither he nor his family ever contribute a cent to any charitable institution whatever.